

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims and the specification of the instant application in order to incorporate the changes made via an Article 34 Amendment to the PCT application from which this application claims priority. Applicants submitted an English translation of the Article 34 Amendment when entering the U.S. National Phase in order that these amendments would be made to the instant application as well. However, as the Filing Receipt issued September 8, 2006 does not reflect receipt of the Article 34 Amendment (in Japanese) or the English translation of the Article 34 Amendment submitted at the time of entering the U.S. National Phase, Applicants submit the instant Preliminary Amendment to ensure these amendments are made to the present application.

With respect to the amendments to the specification made herein, Applicants note that the second aspect of the present invention has been incorporated into the first aspect of the present invention. In light of this amendment merging the first and second aspect, Applicants have also amended the specification such that the third aspect is now called the second aspect, the fourth aspect is now called the third aspect, the fifth aspect is now called the fourth aspect and the sixth aspect is now called the fifth aspect. Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments to the specification do not introduce new matter in to the application as originally filed and are fully supported by the application as originally filed.

Similar amendments have been made to the claims. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter recited in claim 2, and claim 2 has therefore been canceled. Claims 3, 4, 5 and 6 have been amended to reflect the cancellation of claim 2. Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments to the claims do not introduce new matter in to the application as originally filed and are fully supported by the application as originally filed.

Application No. 10/551,232
Preliminary Amendment dated: June 25, 2007

In view of the above amendments to the claims and specification, an early and favorable action on the merits is now in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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